

Attorney Docket No.: PRIN-0069
Inventors: Gilvarg
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In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) A method of enhancing sensitivity and specificity of an assay measuring enzymatic activity of carboxypeptidase A in a biological sample comprising:

(a) contacting the biological sample and a blank sample with a carboxypeptidase A substrate wherein said blank sample contains a specific inhibitor of carboxypeptidase A activity; and

(b) measuring changes in optical density resulting from the hydrolysis of the carboxypeptidase A substrate by carboxypeptidase A in the biological fluid and in the blank sample, wherein the presence of the specific inhibitor of carboxypeptidase A in said blank sample enhances the sensitivity and specificity of the assay.

2. (amended) A method of measuring carboxypeptidase A levels in a biological fluid sample comprising:

(a) contacting a biological fluid sample and a blank sample with a carboxypeptidase A substrate wherein said blank sample contains a specific inhibitor of carboxypeptidase A activity; and

(b) measuring changes in optical density resulting from the hydrolysis of the carboxypeptidase A substrate by carboxypeptidase A in the biological fluid sample.